Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The Harbour Works Accounts are subject to audit by the Accountant-General, Madras.

(*b*) Government are not in possession of any of the audit reports of the Harbour Works Accounts.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is it difficult for us to get the audit reports?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* As a matter of fact, we are asking for it.

FERRIES—REVENUE FROM

59. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will the Government be pleased.—

(*a*) to state the number of ferries farmed out by the Government and the amount received from them for the last year; and

(*b*) to place on the table a list of such ferries showing the amount realised from each?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) 119.

Rs. 41,033.

(*b*) The list is placed on the Council Table.

SHANMUKHAM CANAL—LANDING CHARGES COLLECTED

60. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will the Government be pleased to inform the House.—

(*a*) the landing charges collected from Shanmukham Canal, Irinjalakkuda, during the months of (1) Chingam, and (2) Kanni, 1116;

(*b*) the amount spent every month on the establishment for collecting landing dues from Shanmukham Canal;

(*c*) the rate of landing charges collected at present in the Canal?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) (1) Chingam Rs. 39—4—0.

(2) Kanni „ 10—4—0.

(*b*) Rs. 40 towards the pay of the staff.

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(c) The rates have been notified in the Gazette. (Vide Notification No. 154 on page 837 of Part I of the Gazette dated 26th Karkadagam 1115).

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know whether Government have any idea why there was a fall in Kanni?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* On account of the blocking of the canal due to slips on either side in some portions.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know whether the Government are taking steps to clear the canal?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Steps are being taken.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Are the Government aware that the charges collected are much less than the amount spent every month on the establishment for collecting landing dues, etc?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* There is a proposal of reducing the expenditure of 40 rupees to a sum of 15 rupees.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Has not the Government got a guarantee from the Municipal Council regarding interest?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The Municipality is to pay 4 per cent interest.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി. ഗാരൻറിപ്രകാരം എത്ര സംഖ്യ കൊല്ലത്താൽ പിരിയണം?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I think it was 2 lakhs and 15 thousand that we spent last year. A sum of Rs. 25 to 30 thousand will have to be again spent. At 4 per cent on this it may come to Rs. 8,600 and odd.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Is there not a condition that the canal must be navigable?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The object of having the canal is to make it navigable.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Is it not at present navigable?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is navigable for small boats, but certain portions are silted up and that silt is being removed.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is not the Municipal Council liable to pay the full amount?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Was the Municipality consulted in fixing the rate levied on vessels?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The Municipality was consulted.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Was their opinion taken?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The opinion of the Municipality was not accepted.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Is there not a complaint that it is very high?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* None in writing. It is not high. Before we fixed the rate we got information as regards the amounts which these merchants have to pay. From the nearest landing place, 16 bags cost 1 anna each for carting and they have to pay 4 annas for the toll of the cart. 1 cart will take 16 bags. Thus people will have to spend Re. 1—4—0 for 16 bags from the nearest landing place *viz.*, Kakkathuruthy to Irinjalakkuda. They have now to pay only 4 annas as landing fees for a boat carrying 16 bags and incur an additional expenditure of 5 annas 4 pies from the landing place to the place of business. It is therefore less than half of what they were paying till now.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Have you fixed the rate with regard to the tonnage?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is based upon the tonnage. Each ton capacity means so many bags.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* But all the vessels must be full.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether there is any objection to hand over the collections to the Municipality and look to the Muncipality to give this 4 per cent guarantee?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The matter has yet to be considered.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Has there been any complaint that the canal has affected the agriculturists?

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Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Recently there was some complaint from the people at one portion of the canal. They have made an application to protect the bund there.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Have Government enquired into this ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* When I went there last time a few days back, some persons made representations to me. They put in a petition 10 days hence. It has been received by me 5 days ago and I have sent it to the Tahsildar for enquiry and report.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Have the Government collected statistics regarding the number of boats which are expected to go through the canal before sanction was given for the construction of the canal ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Are there any other dues collected ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* No.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Rs. 8,600 is due from the Municipality. I ask the question whether the Municipality will be able to pay the interest of 4 per cent with this amount ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is a matter which they have to take into consideration.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know whether after landing these things they have not to be taken to the market ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I have stated already that they have to pay 5 annas 4 pies for 16 bags from the landing place to the place of business.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the income of the Municipality ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I want notice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Has the Municipality paid any portion of the dues ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Not yet.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* According to the agreement with the Government, how much are they to pay ?

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Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* 4 per cent on the outlay.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി: ഗാഗൻറി പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു് ചെലവു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള ആദായമാകെ എണ്ണമോ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The net amount.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി; ഈ ചിങ്ങമാസത്തിൽ വഞ്ചികൾക്കും മറ്റും പോകുവാൻ സൌകര്യമുണ്ടായിരുന്നുവോ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* What I found was that till the 15th of the first month there was a large number of boats coming in. Afterwards the number decreased.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the estimated income from this canal?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* At the time of investigation we estimated the income at Rs. 7,000. The condition of the canal is not very satisfactory just now, on account of the severe monsoon. There were some slips and we have taken up the work of making it navigable.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* The shortage was due to the excess rate.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The shortage in collection was due to the silting and not to the high rate of charges levied.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Are small boats coming in now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes. It is a question of psychology. When there is a slight obstruction people do not wish to take the risk. I think, the people will realise that even at this rate it will not be profitable for them to discharge at the basin of the canal.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി: ഇനിയുള്ള മാസങ്ങളിൽ വെള്ളം ധാരാളം കൂടുവായിരിക്കുകയില്ലെ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. മാധവപ്രഭു: ധനുമാസംവരെ വെള്ളം കൂടുവാൻ കാരണമില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ആർ. ഇയ്യുണ്ണി: ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിലേക്കു കൊടുക്കുവാനുള്ള വ, ൦൦൦ രൂപാ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ദിവസംപ്രതി ഇത്രബോട്ടു് വരണമെന്നു വെച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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Mr. President: Estimates were made of the volume of traffic and tonnage. As a matter of fact, people of the locality headed by Mr. Antony themselves stated that this will bring in 15 to 20 thousand rupees, and that ultimately made the Municipality to take it up.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* But, my question is whether the Municipality is able to pay the interest.

Mr. President : The whole point is, the actual economic result of the working of this canal cannot be stated until after 2 years have elapsed. The canal has been completed and formally opened only recently. There are a lot of protective works to be undertaken. You can judge the volume of traffic only from the 3rd year.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ആർ. ഇയ്യുണ്ണി : ഈ വക്ക് കുഴിറെഡിചെയ്യുവാൻ ഇനി എത്ര ഉറുപ്പിക ചെലവിവരും?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* 30 to 40 thousand rupees.

RAMANKAYAL CHIRA—MAINTENANCE OF—CONTRACT FOR

61. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli) :* Will the Government be pleased to state.--

(*a*) when was the maintenance of Ramankayal chira in Karamukku and Manalur Villages undertaken last and at what expense;

(*b*) the amount expended in 1113 and 1114 on the maintenance of the above said chira and the name of the contractor with whom the work was entrusted in 1113 and 1114;

(*c*) whether tenders were called for in 1115 before letting the work on contract;

(*d*) the names of persons who offered themselves to execute the work in 1115—1116 with the rate of tender deduction agreed upon by each;

(*e*) whose tender was accepted and when;

(*f*) whether the Chief Engineer has received any petition from the agriculturists of the locality stating that the contractor in 1113 and 1114 had not attended to the work to the advantage and benefit of the agriculturists;

(*g*) what was the special reason in entrusting the work with the present contractor in 1115—1116?

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